



News Release

WISCONSIN ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD

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January 22, 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Army Guard members of 107th Maintenance Company ordered to active duty

About 110 members of the 107th Maintenance Company, a Wisconsin Army National Guard unit headquartered in Sparta with detachments in Viroqua and Sussex, have been ordered to active duty for up to one year.

The maintenance company has an authorized strength of approximately 260 soldiers with about 140 in Sparta, 70 in Viroqua and 50 in Sussex. It is expected that most of the soldiers mobilized will come from the Sparta headquarters and the detachment in Viroqua. They will enter active duty at the Sparta armory on Jan. 27, then report to the unit's mobilization station at Fort McCoy, Wis., before the end of January. It is expected that Fort McCoy will also be the unit's duty station.

The unit's normal mission is to perform direct support maintenance and to supply repair parts for Army units not served by division-level maintenance organizations.

The 107th Maintenance Company was last called to active duty in 1990, when it was deployed to Saudi Arabia for Operations DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM. More than 1,400 Wisconsin Army and Air National Guard personnel from nine units were mobilized at that time for the Persian Gulf War.

The 107th Maintenance Company activation is part of the partial mobilization of the Guard and Reserve ordered by President Bush last year in the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. About 130,000 Guard and Reserve members nationwide have been called to active duty so far under the partial mobilization, supporting Operations ENDURING FREEDOM (overseas U.S. military operations to combat terrorism) and NOBLE EAGLE (homeland defense and security operations in the continental United States).

This will be the 16th mobilization of Wisconsin National Guard units since the end of the Gulf War in 1991.

With the 107th Maintenance Company mobilization, Wisconsin will have about 535 members of five Army National Guard units and three Air Guard units on active duty. More than 1,350 Wisconsin National Guard soldiers and airmen will have served on active duty during the past 16 months.

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